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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/796,553	03/08/2004	Christopher W. Blackburn	1842.026US1	1086
70648 7590 04/29/2010 SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER/WMS GAMING P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402				
EXAMINER KRISHNAN, VIVEK V				
ART UNIT 2445		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 04/29/2010		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/796,553

Applicant(s)

BLACKBURN ET AL.

Examiner

Vivek Krishnan

Art Unit

2445

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 February 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/CD)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to the Amendment/Arguments filed on February 23, 2010. Claims 1 and 15 have been amended. Claims 1-28 are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on February 23, 2010 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, have been fully considered and, in view of amendments to Claims 1 and 15, are persuasive. The rejections of Claims 1-28 have been withdrawn.

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-6, 9-20, and 23-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0163694 A1 to Chen et al. (hereinafter "Chen"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,198,571 B2 to LeMay et al (hereinafter "LeMay") and U.S. Patent No. 6,970,869 to Slaughter et al. (hereinafter "Slaughter").

6. Regarding Claims 1 and 15, Chen discloses a method for providing an authentication service and an authentication server hosting an authentication service (hereinafter referenced as the system), said server communicably coupled to the [...] network and operable to:

publish the availability of the authentication service on the [...] network (Chen; paragraph 45, discloses publishing the authentication service on the network);

receive a request to register with the authentication service from a service provider on the [...] network (Chen; paragraph 53, discloses receiving a request to register with the authentication service from a service provider on the network); and

sending authentication requests to the authentication service and receiving responses from the authentication service to determine if a client is authentic; process one or more service requests between the service provider and the authentication service, said service requests

conforming to an internetworking protocol (Chen; paragraphs 45, 46, 51, and 52, discloses processing service requests, conforming to networking protocol, between the service provider and the authentication service).

Chen does not explicitly disclose, however Slaughter discloses a sending service information for a gaming service provided by a service provider to a discovery agent on the gaming network; determining by the discovery agent that the gaming service is authorized; in response to determining by the discovery agent that the gaming service is authorized, publishing by the discovery agent service information to a service repository to make the gaming service available on the gaming network (Slaughter; column 66 lines 18-23; authorize services prior to publishing them).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the service network, as disclosed by Chen, to include publishing authorized services, as disclosed by Slaughter, in order to prevent un-authorized publishing of services on a network.

Chen does not explicitly disclose a gaming network. However, LeMay discloses a gaming network system providing an authentication service, the gaming network system comprising:

a service provider communicably coupled to the gaming network (LeMay; Figure 3, discloses a service provider coupled to the gaming network);

at least one gaming machine communicably coupled to the gaming network and operable to request a service from the service provider (LeMay; Figure 3 and column 5 lines 13-31,

discloses gaming machines coupled to the gaming network and operable to request a service from the service provider); and

an authentication server hosting an authentication service [...] (LeMay; Figure 3 and column 5 lines 13-31, an authentication server hosting an authentication service).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply an authentication server hosting an authentication service, as disclosed by Chen, to a gaming network system including a service provider, a gaming machine, and an authentication server, as disclosed by LeMay in order to provide improved authentication service to a gaming network.

7. Regarding Claims 2 and 16, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 1 and 15. Chen and LeMay further disclose wherein the authentication service comprises a web service (Chen; paragraphs 43-45, discloses the authentication service is a web service).

8. Regarding Claims 3 and 17, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 2 and 16. Chen and LeMay further disclose wherein the service request is formatted according to a service description language (Chen; paragraphs 43-45, discloses the service request is formatted according to WSDL).

9. Regarding Claims 4 and 18, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 3 and 17. Chen and LeMay further disclose wherein the service description

language is a Web Services Description Language (WSDL) (Chen; paragraphs 43-45, discloses the service description language is WSDL).

10. Regarding Claims 5 and 19, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 2 and 16. Chen and LeMay further disclose wherein the authentication service is registered in a UDDI registry (Chen; paragraphs 43-45, discloses the authentication service is registered in a UDDI registry).

11. Regarding Claims 6 and 20, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 2 and 16. Chen and LeMay further disclose further comprising an authentication database and wherein the authentication service accesses the authentication database (Chen; paragraph 88, discloses an authentication database accessed by the authentication service).

12. Regarding Claims 9 and 23, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 1 and 15. Chen and LeMay further disclose wherein the authentication service is a local service in the gaming network (Chen; paragraph 48, discloses the Authentication Authority and Authentication Handler as part of the business network Intranet.) (LeMay; Figure 3, discloses the authentication service is a local service in the gaming network).

13. Regarding Claims 10 and 24, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 9 and 23. Chen and LeMay further disclose wherein the authentication

service is provided at a well known location (Chen; Figure 1 and paragraph 39, discloses providing the authentication service over the Internet).

14. Regarding Claims 11 and 25, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 10 and 24. Chen and LeMay further disclose wherein the well known location comprises a TCP/IP address and port (Chen; Figure 1 and paragraphs 39 and 50, discloses using TCP/IP to communicate over the Internet and thereby discloses that the authentication service is provided at a TCP/IP address and port).

15. Regarding Claims 12 and 26, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 10 and 24. Chen and LeMay further disclose wherein the well known location comprises a message queue (Chen; paragraph 39, discloses the well known location comprises a message queue for SMTP).

16. Regarding Claims 13 and 27, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 10 and 24. Chen and LeMay further disclose wherein the well known location comprises a file location for performing a file transfer operation (Chen; paragraph 39, discloses the well known location comprises a file location for FTP operations).

17. Regarding Claims 14 and 28, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 9 and 23. Chen and LeMay further disclose wherein the authentication service is registered in a local environment for the service (Chen; paragraphs 45-48, discloses

registering and running the authentication service at the Authentication Client and Authentication Handler, which are local environments for the authentication service).

18. Claims 7, 8, 21, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay as applied to Claims 6 and 20 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0087629 A1 to Juitt et al. (hereinafter "Juitt").

19. Regarding Claims 7 and 21, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 6 and 20. Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay do not explicitly disclose, however Juitt discloses wherein the authentication database is accessed using an LDAP protocol (Juitt; paragraph 13, discloses an authentication database accessed by an LDAP authentication server).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify accessing an authentication database, as disclosed by Chen and LeMay, to include accessing an authentication database using LDAP protocol, as disclosed by Juitt.

One of ordinary skill in the art the time the invention was made would have been motivated to make this modification in order to provide well known functional protocol for accessing an authentication database.

20. Regarding Claims 8 and 22, Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay disclose each and every limitation of Claims 6 and 20. Chen, Slaughter, and LeMay do not explicitly disclose, however Juitt discloses wherein the authentication database is accessed using a RADIUS protocol (Juitt;

paragraph 13, discloses an authentication database accessed by an RADIUS authentication server).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify accessing an authentication database, as disclosed by Chen and LeMay, to include accessing an authentication database using RADIUS protocol, as disclosed by Juitt.

One of ordinary skill in the art the time the invention was made would have been motivated to make this modification in order to provide well known functional protocol for accessing an authentication database.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vivek Krishnan whose telephone number is (571) 270-5009. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivek Srivastava can be reached on (571) 272-7304. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/V. K./
Examiner, Art Unit 2445

/VIVEK SRIVASTAVA/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2445